Loans to small and marginal farmers in Rajasthan

2485. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that banks extend loans to small and marginal farmers for the purpose of agricultural implements,

(b) if so, what are the names of the banks in Rajasthan which extend loans and the rate at which such loans are given, bankwise; and

(c) what are the details of such loans extended during the last three years, yearwise, and so far during the current year, bankwise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) All the commercial banks including regional rural banks extend loans to small and marginal farmers for the purchase of agricultural implements. The rates of interest charged on term loans are indicated below:

Commercial banks and regional rural banks	Rate of interest (*Percent per annum*)
(i) Minor irrigation and land development	10.00
(ii) *Other purposes*	
(a) Small farmers	10.00
(b) Other farmers	12.50
(iii) Advances for purchase of equipments based on new and renewable sources of energy for agricultural purposes	10.00
(iv) Loans to IRDP beneficiaries	10.00

(c) According to the latest available information, as reported by Reserve Bank of India, the investment credit provided in Rajasthan by scheduled commercial bank to small and marginal farmers, which includes loans granted for purchase of agricultural implements, during the last three years, was as under:

(*Rs. in crores*)

As on	Amount outstanding	
	Small farmers	Marginal farmers
30th June 1984	25.37	13.66
30th June 1985	33.95	24.45
30th June 1986	41.25	27.09

The present data collection system does not yield information relating to advances for purchase of agricultural implements separately.

Self-employment programme for unemployed youth in Rajasthan

2486. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: (a) what is the number of unemployed to state:

(a) what is the number of unemployed youth in Rajasthan who got financial assistance under the Self-Employment Programme during the last three years;

(b) what is the amount distributed under the scheme during the above period, yearwise and districtwise; and

(c) what is the number of applications received, the number of applicaiions cleared and the number of applications rejected during these years in Rajasthan, yearwise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) The information relating to number of applications received, number of applications recommended by DIC Task Forces to banks and number of applications with amount sanctioned by banks in Rajasthan durnig the last 3 years is set out in the table below. The present data reporting system of Reserve Bank of India does not yield district-wise information.

Year	No. of applications received	No. of applications recommended by DICs to banks	Loans sanctioned	
			No.	Amount (*Rs. in crores*)
1984-85	1,04,502	22,178	15,382	23·00
1985-86	72,389	14,874	10,986	21·62
1986-87	35,819	13,296	10 736	23·99

Seizure of firearms

2487. SHRI S. S AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indians abroad were permitted by the Customs & Excise Department to bring Revolvers, etc. with them on their return home a few years ago; if so, the quantum of fire-arms such visitors were permitted to bring with them;

(b) whether this facility has since been withdrawn;

(c) whether it is a fact that after the date of withdrawal of this facility a number of fire-arms were seized by the Customs authorities from such visitors who were unaware of the withdrawal of the said facility; and

(d) if so, what are the details of seizures, itemwise, the amount paid on compensation against such seizure and mode of their disposal by the Customs authorities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) and (b) One pistol or revolver of 0 32 bore or smaller and one gun or rifle were allowed to be cleared on payment of duty by Indian passengers under Baggage Rules, 1978 upto 12-11-1986, provided the importer possessed an Arms Licence under the Arms Act, 1959 This facility has been withdrawn by ITC Public Notice No. 131/85-88 dated 13-11-1986 issued by the office of the Chief Controller of Imports & Exports

(c) and (d) Clearance of fire arms imported in baggage by passengers upto 22-11-1986 had been regularised by the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports. Fire arms imported in baggage after 22-11-86 have been confiscated absolutely. Since the fire arms imported in contravention of the prohibition are liable to confiscation and on confiscation the property vests in the Government; the question of compensating importers who had imported fire arms without being aware of the prohibition, does not arise The confiscated fire arms are used for Government work.

Decline in the production of rubber

2488 SHRI M A BABY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any studies have been conducted by the Rubber Board after 1960 to find out whether there would be any decline in the yield of rubber due to abnormal leaf falling disease;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the action taken thereon;